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AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): A. KITAMI et al

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Art Unit :
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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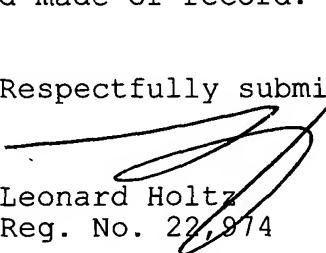
S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the publications identified on the attached Patent Office form PTO/SB/08A.

The publications are identified on pages 7-9 of the specification.

It is respectfully requested that the publications submitted herewith be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number			
		Filing Date		Herewith	
		First Named Inventor		KITAMI	
		Group Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	03433/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initis*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initis*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	55-139271	A	SAKAE ET AL	10-30-1980		X*
		JP	9-29996	A	KOIKE ET AL	02-04-1997		X*
		JP	10-081012	A	KITAHARA	03-31-1998		X*
		JP	11-300966	A	SUZUKI	11-02-1999		X*
		JP	2000-094669	A	TANAKA ET AL	04-04-2000		X*
		JP	2000-168103	A	KUBOTA ET AL	06-20-2000		X*

*English abstract attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

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